



AGC/WSDOT ROADWAY TEAM

MINUTES for Meeting of January 15, 2004

AGC Office, Tacoma WA

Attending:

Frank Scarsella
Dan Glover
Ray Arnold
Larry Eik
Scott Carey

Bill Grady
Jim Spaid
Dean Moberg
Jeff Peterson

Joe Spink
Terry Mattson
Mike Morishige
Ken Stone

Minutes of December 4, 2003 Meeting

Distributed copies and no added comments made.

Old Business

Minutes of Other Team Meetings: Meeting notes from the Administration and Structures Teams were distributed and discussed as follows:

Admin Team –the last meeting was held on October 17, 2003 – Jim Spaid noted that the evaluation of the lump sum traffic control changes are still in progress. The team is still collecting and evaluating data from past projects along with interviewing bidders. Preliminary outcome indicates that this specification may not fit all projects – looks to work well with more defined projects.

Structures Team meeting of November 14, 2003 – The Structures Team is reviewing the cement and aggregate tolerances with WACA – report to follow. Note that an amendment is being developed to clarify the intent of “moist cure”, and the 2004 amendments for “Hem-Fir Lagging” will allow for the substitution of #1 Hem-Fir for #2 Douglas Fir.

The next meetings for both the Structures and Administration Teams are scheduled for January 26, 2004. Meeting notes from various industry/WSDOT teams may be viewed at the State Construction Office website at the following address:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/biz/construction/Default.cfm>

Retaining Wall Specifications – Section 6-11 through 6-18, 9-03, 9-10, and 9-33.

Larry Eik provided a draft copy of Section 6-11 to 6-14 and an update of the progress of retaining wall specifications. An electronic version is included as an attachment to these minutes. The remaining sections should be available by the next meeting in February. Questions or comments regarding these specifications can be sent directly to Larry.

New Business

Roadway Construction Office Changes. - Jim Spaid announced that Kurt Williams has replaced Dave Jones as one of the Assistant Roadway Construction Engineers.

Solid Waste Handling - Jim Spaid provided an update on this item from the November meeting. On December 12, 2003, Environmental Service Office met with western-Washington county public works departments and the Association of General Contractors to discuss impacts to street waste under the new rules.

The Dept of Ecology also convened a stakeholders meeting on December 18, 2003 to discuss this issue. The majority of participants viewed the new rule as problematic and difficult to administer. Alternative language was discussed which would shift the burden of proof to the Ecology and local health departments to demonstrate health and environmental concerns. No conclusions were reached at the meeting, and Ecology has not set a date for addressing proposed changes.

Water Quality Monitoring and Erosion Control - Scott Carey of WSDOT Environmental Services provided an update on the WSDOT erosion control program. He provided handouts and discussed the Statewide TESC Assessment Summary for medium to high-risk projects. This summary reflects the status of thirteen bullet points related to erosion prevention items identified during the fall assessment period.

Scott also provided a copy of the Erosion Control Plan implementation article from the "Gray Note Book". This report is divided into four categories ranging from poor to excellent showing a comparison of 2002 vs. 2003 projects. He also presented information on the Monitoring Water Quality report from the "Gray Note Book".

There was much discussion related to these reporting tools with concern voiced on the wording choices of "performance", "poor" and "game plan". The feeling was that the industry in whole is improving steadily and that we need to be careful with negative reporting – could come back to harm efforts.

Emphasis needs to be placed on training, technical assistance, and dissemination of information out to project offices and contractors.

Silt Fence – Section 8-01.3(9)A – Jim Spaid led a discussion on steel posts utilized in the installation of silt fence on construction projects. A supplier contacted him concerned that the 1.33 lb./ft. posts that we specify are not necessary, 0.95 lb./ft. posts are more than adequate for this application. Group discussion was that there would not be much savings with specifying the lighter posts and that any savings in material may be offset with post damage and re-use of post. Conclusion was to evaluate this issue further with experts and report back. Jim and Scott will discuss further with the Materials Lab.

Fill and Borrow Materials- Steve Ruff and Jerry Trudeau with Miles Sand and Gravel made a presentation to team regarding specifications for fill and borrow material. Their

feeling was that the tighter specifications that the department requires on Gravel Borrow material is driving the cost of material up, eliminating good sources, and often not necessary.

To meet the newer specifications many sources can require up to three screening operations. This adds screening and trucking cost to what was historically a borrow material along with the complete elimination of some good sources.

Group discussion on this issue concluded that designers should do a better job at specifying type of material for specific application instead of utilizing one narrow band “clean” product for everything. Narrow band material can cost up to \$1 to \$2 more per C.Y. than broadband material.

Recommendation from the team was to present recommendations at a WACA/WSDOT meeting – the Materials Lab is actively involved with this association. Specific concerns with the material passing the #4 screen and SE’s will be passed along to the Lab so that they may be better prepared to respond.

Other Business

Scott Carey asked about the status of specifications on orange safety fence used on projects to identify wetland areas. Jim Spaid indicated he had not yet introduced it to the Team for comment.

A general discussion followed regarding the amount of time and effort spent on documentation required for consumable items. Group would be interested in looking at a temporary item list to evaluate possible changes in documentation requirements. Joe Spink will lead in developing the list.

Discussion Topics

The following list of topics will be kept as part of the minutes and future agendas to indicate the items that have surfaced as issues for discussion by the team. As each issue is addressed, it may be removed from the list. As new issues are raised, they will be added to the list as a reminder of the things that need discussion:

{Note: Issues that are added will now include the date (11/30/00) they were included on the list so the team can track their longevity}

- Galvanizing of fence products – review of current specs for consistency.
- Shoulder Rock - further discussion of method of payment.
- Smoothness Specification for ACP - this is an issue of information. A subcommittee of the APAW/WSDOT Joint Task Force is working on the specifics of this issue.
- Longitudinal Wedge Joint
- Testing Storm Sewer Pipe - recent changes in the testing requirements for HDPE pipe have increased the length of time for testing.
(5/24/01) - What is the background for those changes?
(9/20/01) - Discussed the duration of the test. Bill G. said why hold it so long when you know within the first few minutes if you have a leak and thus a failing pipe.
- Signal Detector Loops - Suggested the number of bid items could be reduced by bidding loops per each rather than separate bid items for each type of set (for instance, R1, R2, R3, etc. for loop sets of 1, 2 or 3 loops).

- Structure Excavation Class B – backfilling trenches (5/9/03)
- Aggregate Substitution (5/9/03)

Next Meeting

Meetings are scheduled for **Thursday, February 26, 2004, Thursday March 18, 2004 and Thursday April 15, 2004.** The meetings will be held at the Tacoma AGC office beginning at **8:00am.**